

# M'GOVERN-GARDNER CHAMPIONSHIP FIGHT

## TERRY IS FAVORITE AMONG THE BETTORS.

Terry McGovern may meet his Waterloo at the hands of Oscar Gardner at the Broadway Athletic Club to-night, but if he does it will be the most sensational pugilistic surprise of the year.

The boys are to fight twenty-five rounds.

According to the fighting "dope," McGovern should give Gardner his quietus in less than eight rounds, and the sports who know it all, or think they do, would not be surprised if the sturdy little Brooklyn cyclone laid low his opponent in the "drop of the hat" in the first round.

Still pugilism, like every other sport, is an uncertain business, and Gardner may knock all calculations sky-high before the battle is over.

Both boys are clever at infighting, and rather prefer that sort of game. Terry has the advantage, however, in this style of attack, in that he is younger, stronger and in better physical condition than Oscar.

It remains to be seen whether Gardner, in less than six months of faithful training and nursing, has regained his old-time form. His hands have been in wretched shape and his general health has been bad.

Gardner's trainers, however, claim that their man is in perfect condition and it is claimed his backers have wagered several thousand dollars at odds of 3 to 1 on the result. If this is true Gardner's managers, no matter what odds they demanded, must have substantial hopes of victory.

McGovern's condition in every way is perfect. He says he expects a hard fight, but, as usual, will go into the ring confident of victory, and this is half the battle.

The contest has aroused no end of interest among the sporting element all over the country, and as the sports are satisfied that they will surely see a hard tussle there is every indication that the club-house will be packed to its utmost capacity.

While there has been usually considerable money wagered on both McGovern and Gardner whenever they have fought, ambitious boxers there is very little betting done on this battle. This is no doubt caused by the great confidence which the sporting men have in Terry's wonderful abilities.

The betting on the fight this morning was 2 to 1 on McGovern to receive the decision, and even money that Gardner will not last fifteen rounds. These odds, however, will surely change by the time the lads enter the ring, for as Gardner's admirers will of course hold off until the last moment for the best odds, the McGovern faction will in all probability offer 2½ to 1 that he wins and even money Gardner doesn't last ten or twelve rounds.

Both boys are without a doubt the most aggressive little fighters in the ring to-day, and as they have won all of their fights in the prize-ring by their rough tactics and wonderful punching abilities, everything therefore points to a red-hot, lively battle.

Ever since the contest was arranged



TERRY M'GOVERN.

### THE FIGHTERS' MEASUREMENTS.

McGovern.	Gardner.
5 ft. 3 in.	5 ft. 3 in.
130 lbs.	115 lbs.
14½ in.	16 in.
23½ in.	25 in.
25½ in.	27 in.
27½ in.	27 in.
19½ in.	19½ in.
18 in.	15 in.
12 in.	12 in.
10 in.	10 in.
65 in.	65 in.

Gardner has been training as faithfully as he ever did in his life and he feels confident of beating McGovern. While confidence is half the battle won, Gardner, however, must remember that he is meeting the most wonderful boxer he ever tackled.

McGovern is a hard puncher with both hands, and if Gardner can stand the body blows then he will stand a chance of winning.

McGovern ended his training yesterday afternoon at Jack Everson's cottage at Lakewood, and looks in as fit condition as ever a fighter did in his life. McGovern after his hard day's work jumped on the scales and weighed exactly 119 pounds. This is three pounds below the weight at which they are to fight.

Gardner also finished his training yesterday, and like McGovern he looks in perfect condition, and weighed 112½ pounds.

The weighing-in formalities this afternoon were attended by the usual demonstrations of a mob of men and boys. At least 2,000 of these followed the young pugilists to the club-house and

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## RUSSIA DEFIED.

LONDON, March 9—5.42 P. M.—The Amir of Afghanistan has authorized his agent in London to publish the following statement of the policy of Afghanistan toward Great Britain and Russia:

After saying that he had devoted much anxious thought to the possibility of

Russia taking advantage of the Transvaal war and advance through Afghanistan to India. His Highness adds: "I have come to the conclusion that Russia, feared Afghanistan, as a war with the Afghans would mean a general rising of all Islam, which would spread through Russian Asia."

"Russia had not troops enough to combat such a rising. Her hold on the Mussulman countries she has conquered is insecure. They hate her and with ten times her power Russia could not fight Afghanistan and India successfully. The Afghans are unaccustomed to the sea, the Amir adds:

"But England's troubles are always my troubles. Her strength is my strength and her weakness is my weakness. England must remember that I am always ready to fight for her and land here or in India."

## KRUGER ASKS FOR PEACE! EXTRA!

### BRITISH TROOPS MOVE ON TO NEW POSITIONS

LONDON, March 9—9.05 P. M.—The War Office has issued the following despatch from Lord Roberts:

"Clements has occupied Norval's Post and the adjacent drifts. As soon as the engineers, pontoon and troops arrive he will cross the river when the necessary repairs to the railway bridge will be commenced."

"Gatare occupied Burghersdorp March 7 and was greeted with great enthusiasm on the part of the loyal inhabitants. His scouts report that large numbers of rebels in the neighborhood are anxious to surrender."

### FRENCH FREIGHTER MAY BE LOST

Before the French liner La Champagne sailed on Thursday, her commander was instructed to keep a sharp lookout for the missing Paullac. The Paullac, Capt. Gicque, is one of the French line freighters. She sailed from this port for Havre on Feb. 5, and was spoken on Feb. 11 about 450 miles southeast of Cape Race. Since then nothing has been heard of her, and it is feared that she has been lost.

### BABY GIRL KILLED BY FALL

Ruth Xamper, two years old, of 206 West Ninety-sixth street, fell from a fourth-story window of that house this afternoon and was killed.

### DECISION AFTER DEATH

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court handed down a decision this afternoon affirming the order of the lower court in the case of James C. Strahan against Tax Commissioner Feltner. The decision was in favor of Mr. Strahan, who died two weeks ago.

Strahan's salary was reduced and he took the matter to court.

### ANOTHER POOL-ROOM ARREST

M. J. Reilly, who keeps the Park View Hotel at Seventy-ninth street and Third avenue, was arrested this afternoon charged with running a pool-room. Reilly denied the accusation, but was held in Yorkville Court.

### LATE RESULTS AT NEW ORLEANS

FIGHT RACE—Covier 1, Leonard 2, Avila 3.

LONDON, March 9—5.10 P. M.—President Kruger has appealed to Lord Salisbury for a cessation of hostilities, offering at length, by cable, the terms which he is willing to accept.

These, however, are not taken seriously, as they include practically nothing more than what the Transvaal Government offered prior to the issuing of the British ultimatum.

Official circles here regard the propositions as merely a ruse of the Boers to gain time, and do not think that President Kruger is yet ready to consider the sweeping demands which Great Britain will make for reimbursement for the loss of life and great expenditure.

It was understood that President Kruger's advances had met with an emphatic rejection at the hands of Lord Salisbury, who is believed to have said that no such attempt to retain the independence of the Transvaal can be considered for a moment by the British Government.

Despatches from the Boer camp at Glencoe, via Lorenzo Marques, depict President Kruger as donning a bandolier, seizing a rifle and inviting volunteers to accompany him, as he wished to have a shot at the enemy himself.

President Kruger is also quoted as having declared in his address to the troops that he "did not know whether arbitration or intervention would end the struggle, but that it would end quickly, within the next month, he strongly believed."

## PRESIDENTS FAILED TO STOP BOER ROUT.

LONDON, March 9.—The War Office has received the following despatch from Lord Roberts:

"POPULAR GROVE, Friday Morning.—Presidents Kruger and Steyn were both present at the fight of March 7 and did all in their power to rally their troops. The rout, however, was complete, the men declaring that they could not stand against the British artillery and such a formidable force of cavalry."

## FREE STATE TIRED; INGLORIOUS FLIGHT.

LONDON, March 9.—From various quarters come signs of the possibility of peace in South Africa being shortly within the bounds of practical politics. All the despatches from Lord Roberts' headquarters in the Free State, including those of the Commander-in-Chief himself, indicate the lack of a guiding spirit among the Boers and individual demoralization portending disintegration unless speedily stemmed.

The flight of the burghers from Poplar Grove, according to all accounts, was wholly inglorious. A Times despatch from Poplar Grove, under yesterday's date, goes so far as to assert that the Boers' rout was so complete that the submission of the Free State is being demanded by the burghers from their unwilling President, and it is expected that his submission will be made within a week. The correspondent adds:

"Probably the Boers' wisest course was fight, but it was most undignified and is certain to produce consternation at Bloemfontein. There is a growing outcry against any further identification of the Free State with the Transvaal's interests."

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In the meanwhile the British are staying their advance. Lord Roberts

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### EVENING WORLD EXTRA TO-NIGHT.

An Extra edition of The Evening World will be printed to-night upon the conclusion of the McGovern-Gardner boxing match, giving a full, complete and graphic report of the affair.